

Education & Development

First Statewide Court HR Conference

On November 1 and 2, judicial branch representatives from around the state will participate in the first-ever statewide conference on human resources in the California courts.

"The event will help build a collective vision and sense of community among the courts," says Susan Hough, Human Resources (HR) Director for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the agency sponsoring the conference. "It will allow human resources leaders and practitioners throughout the system to share information regarding issues currently affecting the judicial branch."

The theme of the conference is "HR in the California Courts: From There to Here to Where?" A portion of the conference will be dedicated to assisting courts in implementing the Trial Court Employment Protection and Governance Act (Sen. Bill 2140), and other tracks will cover "hot" topics related to HR management. Potential workshop topics include developing an HR department from scratch, innovative HR practices, succession planning, and court-county relations.

The 12-member planning committee for the conference consists of judicial branch executives and HR professionals who are led by their elected co-chairs, Superior Court of Fresno County Executive Officer Tamara Beard and Superior Court of Sacramento County Executive Officer Jody Patel. The committee is working in partnership with representatives from the AOC's HR Division.

● For more information, contact Hazel Ann Reimche, AOC Human Resources Division, 415-865-4263; e-mail: hazel.ann.reimche@jud.ca.gov.

CJER Providing Court Training

In July, the Administrative Office of the Courts' (AOC) Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER), together with court trainers from around the state, completed the design and development of nine core curricula for on-site training of court employees. Called the Core Curriculum Technical Assistance Project (CCTAP), the new curricula are the outgrowth of a recognized need to provide high-quality training in certain key areas to California's 18,000 court employees.

Beginning in October, CJER will offer the first six curricula—Ethics, Handling Change, Beyond Bias, Interpersonal Communi-

cation, Writing for Results, and Safety and Security—to court staffs throughout California. The three remaining courses, Customer Service I, Customer Service II, and Orientation, will be added to the course list in December. CJER will provide lesson plans and trained faculty who will visit court facilities to lead the classes.

To test the project for viability and usefulness, the AOC piloted CCTAP in the Superior Court of Kern County in March. In addition, in June CCTAP trainers participated in a workshop with representatives from CJER and the trial courts to prepare for the launch of the program.

Each of the 58 counties designated a court staff member as training coordinator. That person will supply applications and additional information about the courses and their objectives.

● For more information, contact a local training coordinator or Maggie Cimino, CCTAP Program Manager, CJER, 415-865-7801; e-mail: maggie.cimino@jud.ca.gov.

ABA Forum to Focus on Improving Justice

The American Bar Association's (ABA) Coalition for Justice will host its 2001 Forum on Justice Improvements October 26–28, 2001, in Washington, D.C.

This year's forum will focus on building community partnerships. The goals of the conference are to (1) bring together leaders in the judiciary, the bar, and the community for an open dialogue about justice in the new century and (2) develop methods for improving the justice system, starting at the grassroots level.

To give participants a glimpse of a successful community partnership, the American Medical Association and leading physicians will describe examples of how the medical community has come together with neighborhood organizations and others to stem the tide of gun-related injuries, without turning to legislation or gun control debates.

Since 1994, the ABA Coalition for Justice has brought members of the bench and the bar together with leaders in the community to work on issues affecting the public's trust and confidence in the American system of justice. It publishes an annual state-by-state summary of justice improvement activities, with emphasis on projects that involve nonlawyers as well as court and bar officials.

The California members of the 36-member coalition include a judge (Veronica McBeth of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, co-chair of the

Community-Focused Court Planning Implementation Committee), a lawyer (Mark Schickman, past-president of the Bar Association of San Francisco), and a community leader (John Tateishi of San Francisco, Executive Director of the Japanese American Citizens League).

The forum will conclude with a plenary session that will bring together the presidents of the American Bar Association, the American Medical Association, the U.S. League of Women Voters, and other national organizations to develop a call to action for a national cooperative approach to justice system reform.

● For more information, visit www.abanet.org/justice or call Eileen Gallagher, 312-988-5105; e-mail: gallaghe@staff.abanet.org.

RESOURCES

CFCC Launches Web Site

In August, the Administrative Office of the Courts' Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) launched a new Web site that provides both court professionals and court users with a valuable source of information on family and juvenile law and the legal process. The site is located at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc.

The primary audiences of the site are judicial officers, attorneys, and court professionals. Information on the site includes juvenile case law summaries, training opportunities, grant applications, publications, and other research materials.

Family members, children, and others involved in court proceedings will also find the site helpful. For example, site users can learn about court services; visit the Frequently Asked Questions section; view an interactive activity booklet that teaches children about the court system; or download online publications on topics such as foster parenting, juvenile dependency, and divorce.

● For more information, contact Beth Kassiola, CFCC, 415-865-7697 (e-mail: beth.kassiola@jud.ca.gov), or visit www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc.

First Judicial Leadership Directory Published

Capitol Enquiry, publishers of the *Pocket Directory of the California Legislature* and the *California State Agency Directory*, recently published the first directory of the state judiciary, the *Pocket Directory of California Judicial Leaders*. This compact 108-page booklet includes rosters and contact information for

CCTI 2001



Court clerks from across the state arrived at Stanford University in July to attend the 12th Annual Court Clerk Training Institute. This year's institute offered formal classroom training for court clerks, with emphasis on cross-training for unified courts.

the Supreme Court justices, the presiding justices of the Courts of Appeal, and the presiding judges and executive officers of the superior courts, as well as the members of the Judicial Council and its committees and task forces.

The directory also includes a helpful chart of the state judicial branch, a calendar of key dates for the judiciary, and maps of appellate districts and superior court jurisdictions.

Compiled in cooperation with the Administrative Office of the Courts, the directory was distributed to the 500 judicial leaders and representatives from other branches of state government in August. Additional copies for the courts are available from the AOC; others can order the directory from Capitol Enquiry for \$19.95.

Like other government directories, the *Pocket Directory of California Judicial Leaders* will be updated annually.

● For additional copies of the *Pocket Directory of California Judicial Leaders*, call the AOC's Publications Hotline at 800-900-5980 or e-mail pubinfo@jud.ca.gov. ■

Court Clerks Training

The California Court Clerks Association released the list of classes it will offer at each of its training sessions in fiscal year 2001–2002.

DATES

October 20, 2001	Southern Training Day, San Bernardino
November 10, 2001	Central Training Day, Contra Costa
February 2, 2002	Northern Training Day, Sonoma
March 23, 2002	Coastal Training Day, Los Angeles

CLASSES

Certification Program: How to Complete Paperwork
Computer Security: E-Mail Etiquette
Writing Skills
Department of Motor Vehicles (specific topic to be announced)
So You Want to Be a Supervisor
Tai Chi/Stress Prevention
Preventing and Detecting Financial Abuse

● For more information, contact Helen Frederick, California Court Clerks Association, 510-553-0401; e-mail: hfgroup@pacbell.net.

Spread the News

Tell *Court News* about innovative programs and services at your court so that we can share your experience with your colleagues.

Send the information via mail to Blaine Corren, *Court News*, Administrative Office of the Courts, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102-3660, phone: 415-865-7449; fax: 415-865-4334; e-mail: blaine.corren@jud.ca.gov.

Court Briefs

Nominations Due for Distinguished Service Awards

October 1 is the deadline for receipt of nominations for the Judicial Council's Distinguished Service Awards. These awards, the council's highest individual honors, are presented to judges, court executives, and court leaders who demonstrate extraordinary leadership and make significant contributions to the administration of justice.

There are three categories of Distinguished Service Awards:

- Jurist of the Year, honoring members of the judiciary who demonstrate extraordinary dedication to the highest principles of the administration of justice;

- Judicial Administration Award, honoring significant contributions to and leadership in the field of judicial administration; and

- Bernard E. Witkin Amicus Curiae Award, honoring individuals other than members of the judiciary for their outstanding contributions to the California court system.

The council will present the awards at the annual California Judicial Administration Conference, January 30–February 1, 2002 (location to be announced).

- For nomination information, contact Claudia Fernandes, Education Division, 415-865-7799; e-mail: claudia.fernandes@jud.ca.gov.

Drug Court Review—Second Edition

This summer, the National Drug Court Institute and the national Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University released *Research on Drug Courts: A Critical Review—2001 Update* by Steven R. Belenko, Ph.D. This is a new edition of Dr. Belenko's 1999

critical review of drug court research. The updated report analyzes 37 published and unpublished evaluations of drug courts (including 7 juvenile drug courts, 1 DUI court, and 1 family drug court) produced between 1999 and April 2001.

Dr. Belenko, a fellow at the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, is one of the nation's foremost researchers and writers on drug court programs and the impact of drug abuse on the criminal justice system. The conclusions of his 2001 update are consistent with those of his earlier review, indicating that drug courts, relative to other treatment programs, offer more comprehensive supervision and monitoring, have higher rates of retention in treatment, and show reduced drug use and criminal behavior during the period of participation in the program.

- For more information or to view *Research on Drug Courts: A Critical Review—2001 Update*, contact the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at 212-841-5200 or visit its Web site at www.casacolumbia.org.

CASA Grants Available

Courts have through October 17 to apply for grants under the 2001–2002 Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Grant Program.

The Judicial Council offers grant funds to courts for establishing and maintaining CASA programs. The programs serve abused and neglected children who are the subjects of judicial proceedings. In November the council will offer a new funding option called “development grants” to counties interested in beginning the preliminary work of establishing a CASA program. Five grants of up to \$10,000 each will be awarded to selected counties. This year a total of \$1,825,000, which is \$475,000 more than last year's total, will be distributed to existing, new, and developing programs. The funding period for the 2001–2002 grants is December 1, 2001, through November 30, 2002.

Legislation enacted in 1988 required the Judicial Council to adopt guidelines and a grant proposal process for local CASA programs throughout the state. Owing to the success of the grant program, in 1993 legislation was enacted that made the program a permanent part of the council's duties. In enacting the 1993 bill, the Legislature found:

The intelligent and careful use of volunteer energies is a great untapped resource. Research shows that the use of volunteers to provide support to high-risk families is more effective than the treatment of professionals alone. The key

to solving our immense social problems is the establishment of an effective working partnership between the courts, public agencies, private foundations and agencies, and volunteers[, and] the use of public-private partnership and volunteerism has proven to be a cost-effective and sound problem-solving tool.

The Selection Review Subcommittee of the council's Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee will review the grant proposals.

- For more information, contact Stephanie Leonard, CASA Program Manager, Administrative Office of the Courts, 415-865-7682; e-mail: stephanie.leonard@jud.ca.gov.

Ventura Homeless Court Recognized

The Foundation of the State Bar of California presented a check for \$5,000 to the Superior Court of Ventura County Homeless Court on July 27. In addition, Superior Court of Ventura County Judge John E. Dobroth, in recognition of the program's one-year anniversary, presented certificates to the volunteers and staff members of the homeless court.

A homeless court is an alternative sentencing program that provides a mechanism for homeless individuals to resolve their outstanding minor offenses through community service in lieu of fines. The programs arose from the observation that often citations for certain offenses—such as sleeping or drinking in public and various traffic-related infractions—result from the condition of homelessness.

The grant money will be used to fund a position for a homeless court program coordinator in Ventura County. That person will be responsible for screening cases, scheduling court calendars, coordinating activities with homeless advocacy and shelter organizations, conducting case follow-ups, collecting data, and preparing reports.

Access to Justice Award Nominations Due

Nominations for the Benjamin Aranda III Access to Justice Award are due by October 12.

Named for the late Judge Benjamin Aranda III, who was known for his promotion of access and fairness in the courts, this award annually honors a California trial judge or appellate justice whose activities demonstrate a long-term commitment to improving access to the courts for low- and moderate-income Californians. Sponsored by the Judicial Council, the State Bar, and the California Judges Association, the award was developed by the Bench-Bar Pro Bono Project, whose mission is to educate the bar and the judiciary about the

causes of and remedies for lack of access to the courts.

The award recipient must have done one or more of the following:

- Made a commitment to increasing the involvement of volunteer attorneys in the representation of indigent persons;
- Successfully established a model system for assisting self-represented litigants;
- Successfully established a model cooperative project with local legal services programs or bar associations, to improve the representation available to low- and moderate-income litigants; or
- Engaged in other significant activities demonstrating a long-term commitment to improving the accessibility of our judicial system for all Californians, regardless of income.

Past recipients of the Benjamin Aranda III Access to Justice Award include Judith McConnell, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District (1999); Superior Court of Los Angeles County Judge Veronica McBeth (2000); and Superior Court of Ventura County Judge Charles W. Campbell, Jr. (2001).

This year's award will be presented at the California Judicial Administration Conference, which will take place January 30–February 1, 2002, at a location to be announced.

- For more information on the Benjamin Aranda III Access to Justice Award, contact Mary C. Viviano, State Bar of California, 415-538-2000.

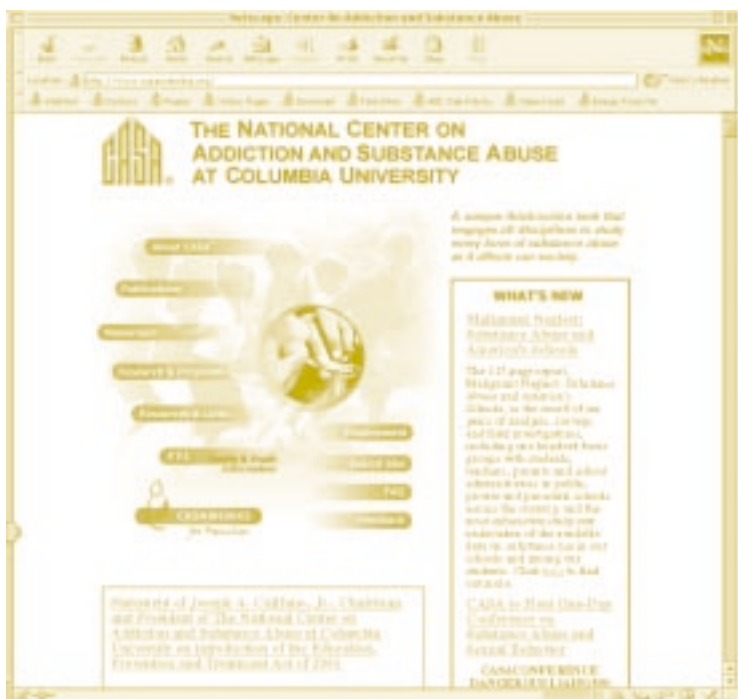
MILESTONES

In June, **Superior Court of Sacramento County Presiding Judge Richard K. Park** was named Judge of the Year by the Sacramento County Bar Association. Among other attributes, the association honored Judge Park for his grace, kindness, and generosity and for having a character and demeanor that have elicited numerous unsolicited comments from lawyers about his wisdom, experience, and temperament.

Judge Park was appointed to the Sacramento County bench in 1984 and has served as its presiding judge since 2000.

In July, the National Association of Counties (NACo) presented its 2001 Achievement Award to the **Superior Court of San Bernardino County** for a program called Court Community Outreach and Education Through Countywide Public Service Announcements. The NACo awards recognize innovative projects that increase services to the citizens of counties.

Continued on page 15



Milestones

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In January, the Judicial Council honored the San Bernardino County court’s public service announcements program with a Ralph N. Kleps award, which recognizes contributions made by individual courts to the administration of justice. The announcements answer questions about the court asked most commonly by residents of the county, including questions on jury service, family court services, and general court-house rules.

On June 1, the Ventura County Bar Association presented **Superior Court of Ventura County Commissioner Ruben De La Torre** with a certificate of recognition for contributions to his court’s tour program.

More than 3,000 students in the 6th, 8th, and 12th grades participate in the court tour program each year. Tours are also provided for scouts, seniors, and other special interest groups. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the program. Commissioner De La Torre was recognized for the time he spends leading tours, his humor and patience, and his practice of encouraging students to remain in school and excel. ■

Judicial Appointments

The Governor announced the following appointments to the bench in July and August 2001.

COURTS OF APPEAL

Judith McConnell, Superior Court of San Diego County, to Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division One, succeeding Don Work, deceased.

TRIAL COURTS

Edward J. Davila to the Superior Court of Santa Clara County, succeeding Donald Clark, retired.

David De Alba to the Superior Court of Sacramento County, succeeding John V. Stroud, retired.

Laura Halgren to the Superior Court of San Diego County, succeeding Robert O’Neill, retired.

Katherine L. Lucero to the Superior Court of Santa Clara County, succeeding John S. Pasco, retired.

Amalia Meza to the Superior Court of San Diego County, filling a newly created position.

Gary R. Orozco to the Superior Court of Fresno County, succeeding Stephen Henry, retired.

COURT EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Jody Patel, Superior Court of Sacramento County, succeeding Michael Roddy. ■

Getting in Touch

- Administrative Office of the Courts
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3660
- CALIFORNIA COURTS WEB SITE**
www.courtinfo.ca.gov
- The area code for the following is 415 except as indicated.
- MAIN NUMBER**
865-4200
- GENERAL PUBLIC INFORMATION and QUESTIONS**
865-7740, pubinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov
- JOB HOTLINE—Administrative Office of the Courts**
865-4369, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jobs/
- JOB HOTLINE—Habeas Corpus Resource Center**
865-4314
- MEDIA RELATIONS, MEDIA REQUESTS**
865-7740
- PUBLICATIONS—REQUESTS**
865-7740, 800-900-5980, pubinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov
- DIVISION/UNIT**
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS: 865-7739, 865-7569
- EDUCATION DIVISION/CJER: 865-7745
- EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 865-4240, 865-4241
Administrative Support Unit: 865-4211
Appellate and Trial Court Judicial Services: 865-4250
- FINANCE DIVISION: 865-7960
Trial Court Budget Support: 865-7541
Trial Court Fiscal Services: 865-7549
- HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION: 865-4260
Trial Court Assistance Unit: 865-4269
- INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION: 865-7400
- JUDICIAL COUNCIL SERVICES: 865-7737
Office of Communications: 865-7740
Research and Planning: 865-7454
Secretariat and Conference Services: 865-7640
- OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL: 865-7446
- OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS:
916-323-3121
- TRIAL COURT PROGRAMS DIVISION: 865-7530

- BY SUBJECT**
- Access, fairness, and diversity: 865-7671, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/access/
- Appellate courts, services to
Appellate education: 865-7823, 865-4255
Appellate procedures: 865-7583
Appellate rules: 865-7583
Appointed appellate counsel: 865-4250
California Rules of Court: 865-7681, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules/
- Cameras in court: 865-7653
Cameras in court form (requests from media): 865-7734, 865-7726
Comment, invitations to: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/invitationstocomment/
- Court community outreach: 865-7709, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/community/outreach.htm
- Court employees: www2.courtinfo.ca.gov/tcemployees/
- Court facilities: 865-7959
Task Force on Court Facilities www2.courtinfo.ca.gov/facilities/
- Court interpreters: 865-7599, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/courtinterpreters/
- Drug courts: 865-7632, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/drugcourts/
- Education
Court employees: 865-7745, jaicinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov
- Judges
Programs: 865-7745, cjerinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov
Publications: 865-7805, cjerpubs@courtinfo.ca.gov
Videotapes: 865-7792, cjertapes@courtinfo.ca.gov
- Ethics: 865-7799
- Family and juvenile law
Center for Families, Children & the Courts: 865-7739, 865-7569, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/childrenandthecourts/
- Access grants: 865-7585
Child support: 865-7619
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program: 865-7704
Domestic violence: 865-7712
Mediation/evaluation/alternative dispute resolution: 865-7639
Research, evaluation, and statistics: 865-7555
Standards and programs: 865-7554
Training and education: 865-7556
- Forms, Judicial Council: 865-7681, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms/
- Grants: 865-7705

- Judges
Appointments
All levels: Governor’s Judicial Appointments Secretary, 916-324-7039
Appellate: Chair, Commission on Judicial Appointments, Supreme Court of California, 350 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102-3600
- Complaints
Sitting: Commission on Judicial Performance, 557-1200
Retired: 865-7638
- Judicial Council, services to
Secretariat and Conference Services: 865-7640, jcservices@courtinfo.ca.gov
- Jury reform: 865-7589
- Legal: 865-7446
Alternative dispute resolution: 865-7691
Civil procedure: 865-7665
Conservatorship: 865-7665
Criminal law and procedure: 865-7688
Delay reduction—civil: 865-7665
Economic litigation: 865-7669
Employment law: 865-7545
Evictions: 865-7669
Guardianships: 865-7665
Labor law: 865-7803
Landlord-tenant: 865-7665
Probate: 865-7665
Small claims: 865-7669
Standards of Judicial Administration: 865-7825
- Strategic planning
Community-focused court planning: 865-7709, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/community/court_planning.htm
Judicial Council strategic plan: 865-7708, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/reference/1_annualreports.htm#LeadingJustice
- Technology policy and planning: 865-7431
- Three-strikes law: 865-7650
- Trial courts, services to
Change of venue: 865-7638
Coordination of civil actions: 865-7630
Court administration procedures (court holidays, fax filing, forms, rules): 865-7685
Grant coordination: 865-7705
Human Resources—Trial Court Assistance Unit: 865-4269
Judicial assignments: 865-7638
Judicial benefits: 865-4323
Local rules: 865-7669
Traffic: 865-7611
Trial court budget support (AB 233): 865-7553
Unification (SCA 4): 865-7708
Vexatious litigants: 865-7593

Photo: William A. Porter

Calendar

CONFERENCES

SEP 6–9	California State Bar Annual Meeting, Anaheim
SEP 20–22	Fifth Annual AB 1058 Conference, San Diego
SEP 20–23	California Judges Association Annual Meeting, San Jose
OCT 25–26	California Youth Court Training Conference, San Francisco
NOV 1–2	California Judicial Branch Human Resources Conference (location to be announced)
DEC 5–7	Beyond the Bench, Monterey

JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Judicial Council business meetings will be held at the Administrative Office of the Courts in San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

OCT 26	DEC 13
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- Contact: Secretariat and Conference Services, 415-865-7640, or e-mail: jcservices@courtinfo.ca.gov. Judicial Council meeting information is also posted on the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/jc/.

JUDICIAL EDUCATION

Programs

SEP 12-14	Appellate Research Attorneys Institute, Costa Mesa
OCT 11-12	Retired Judges Institute, San Diego
OCT 21-26	Continuing Judicial Studies Program, Fall Session, Long Beach
OCT 31-NOV 2	Retired Judges Institute, San Diego
NOV 1-2	Computer Class, San Francisco

Note: Computer class students must possess a Serranus identification number to participate.

- Contact: Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER), 415-865-7753.

Orientation

Orientation programs for new trial court judges, commissioners, and referees are scheduled as follows:

SEP 10-14 OCT 1-5 NOV 5-9 DEC 17-21

Appellate Justices Orientation

SEP 25

Note: Orientation sessions with insufficient enrollment will be canceled.

- Contact: CJER, 415-865-7745.

ADMINISTRATIVE EDUCATION

OCT 3-4	Court Staff Training, Sacramento
OCT 22-25	Court Management Course/Fall CJSP, Long Beach
OCT 25-26	Court Budgeting, Long Beach

- Contact: Administrative Education, 415-865-7745.

COURT NEWS

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